

DEER MASTER LIST

February 13, 2013

Specific proposed changes from 2013 are list below. All other season components except calendar rotation are proposed unchanged from 2013.

Statewide

Convert all general mule deer seasons to antlered-only, with a few exceptions to address urban deer and game damage issues (some Region 2 private land-specific general seasons; HD 388 (Helena)).

Generally eliminate mule deer B licenses, except to retain a few specific B licenses to address urban deer and game damage issues (Region 2 private land licenses (4 HD's; HD 388 (Helena)).

Generally eliminate white-tailed deer B licenses in Regions 4, 5, and 6, except to retain one license in Region 5 where the population greatly exceeds the long term average and EHD losses were minor in 2013 (599-00 with reduction of licenses from 2000 to 1000). No changes would be implemented in Regions 1, 2, 3, and 7.

Region 1

HD 101/102/109/120/122/124: Establish white-tailed deer antlerless B-licenses individually for each of these HDs. In HDs 101, 102, 109, and 120 these licenses are valid on private land only but not to include Plum Creek or Stoltze Timber Company land. HDs 121,122 and 124 these licenses would be valid on all ownerships, district wide. Quotas and quota ranges are listed below.

HD 101 – 50 (quota range 5 – 300)

HD 102 – 100 (quota range 5 – 300)

HD 109 – 25 (quota range 5 – 200)

HD 110 – 100 (quota range 5 – 300)

HD 120 – 100 (quota range 5 – 300)

HD 121 – 300 (quota range 25 – 1500)

HD 122 – 200 (quota range 5 – 300)

HD 124 – 200 (quota range 25 – 500)

HD 170: Adjust regulations to read: NOTE: Flathead Weapons Restriction Area portion of hunting district and Flathead and Blasdel WPAs restricted to ArchEquip, shotgun, traditional handgun, muzzleloader or crossbow only.

Region 2

Note that boundary changes listed in the Elk master list, also apply to Deer seasons as well.

See statewide changes listed at the beginning of the master list.

HD 201: Increase existing white-tailed B licenses in Four Mile area from 5 to 25 and modify the area they are valid to be only private land. Eliminate the 50 white-tailed deer B-licenses for Ninemile/Sixmile Area

HD 210: Eliminate 25 private land B-licenses for mule deer. (statewide changes)

HD 212: Reduce private land B licenses from 150 to 50 for mule deer. (statewide changes)

HD 213: Reduce private land B licenses from 100 to 50 for mule deer. (statewide changes)

HD 204/240/250/261/270: Reduce white-tailed deer general license antlerless harvest opportunity from season-long to the first 9 days. Allow youth to continue to hunt for antlerless either-sex white-tailed deer season-long on the general license. District specific antlerless B licenses would be eliminated in HD 250 and 270. Allocate limited B-licenses for antlerless white-tailed deer in other districts as follows:

HD 204—50 B licenses (existing 100 B –licenses for private land only, would also stay in place)
HD 240—100 B licenses
HD 261—25 B licenses

Reduce archery-only, over-the-counter B license 260-10 from 5 to 3 per hunter (valid in 204, 240, 250, 260, 261, ~~and 270~~ and 283).

~~New HD 206/260: Adjust the boundary of Hunting District 260 to confine it to the Bitterroot River bottoms south of Missoula (see Elk Master List). The west side of the valley would be in HD 206, while the east side would be within HD 260.~~

HD 260 The deer season framework in the portion of HD 260 west of Highway 93 in Missoula County~~new HD 206~~ would be general, either-sex white-tailed deer, archery only from the beginning of archery season through January 15.

Add either-sex mule deer to the general season in HD 260, except the portion west of Highway 93 in Missoula County.

Eliminate LPT 260-30. LPT 260-30 allowed 500 B licenses for either-sex white-tailed deer, using archery equipment, shotgun, traditional handgun, muzzleloader or crossbow, from Dec 1-Jan 15 in HDs 204, 240, 250, 260, 261 and 270. This would return HD 260 to an archery-only district with the existing general deer license, archery equipment only, either-sex white-tailed deer from the beginning of archery season to January 15th. This season would also be changed to add either-sex mule deer, as noted and qualified above.

~~Add 1 over-the-counter B license for antlerless mule deer. Archery equipment only. Valid only in HD 260 from Sept 6 – Jan 15.~~

HD 240: South of Carlton Creek and outside the National Forest boundary, expand general deer license to be valid for antlerless mule deer as well as either sex white-tailed deer. Valid for antlerless white-tailed deer from Oct 25-Nov 30, and also archery-only season. Valid for antlerless mule deer from Oct 25-Nov 2.

HD 240/250: Extend the backcountry rifle season for mule deer bucks from October 15 to the end of the general rifle season—valid only inside the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness boundary in HD 240. This is LPT 240-50 and ~~and~~ FWP would continue to offer 25 buck permits. Under this proposal, the season would continue to open on October 1.

Discontinue the backcountry rifle season for mule deer bucks in HD 250, due to the proposed boundary shift (see Elk Master List) that would reduce the available hunting area. This was LPT 250-51, and only 10 permits were offered in 2012-2013.—

HD 250/270: Reduce limited buck permits in HD 250 from 85 to 40, due to the proposed boundary change involving HDs 240 and 270 (see Elk Master List), which would transfer the most accessible and productive fall mule deer habitat to those districts. Extend the closing date from Nov 17 to the end of the general season. Eliminate all opportunity to hunt antlerless mule deer in HD 270. This would eliminate LPTs 270-00 (25 B licenses), 270-01 (25 B-licenses), and 270-02 (25 B-licenses).

HD 262: Create new Hunting District (HD) 262 from portions of HDs 204 and 261 in the East Bitterroot Valley (see Elk Master List). A primitive weapons season would run during prior to the archery season (Aug 15-day prior to archery start) and from the day after the general season close to Jan 1 up to the general firearm season. The two day youth deer season would be any weapon. HD 262 would have the standard general rifle season. ~~HD 262 would be open to either-sex white-tailed deer and antlerless mule deer. Also, 200 B licenses would be valid for antlerless deer, either species.~~ Existing mule deer buck permits in HD 261 would also be valid in HD 262._

Example Proposal for HD 262 in 2014 is as follows:

--- HD 262 Bitterroot Farmlands---

General Deer License

Sep 6 – Oct 24 – Either-Sex White-tailed Deer. Archery Only Season

Oct 25 – Nov 30 – Either-sex White-tailed Deer.

Deer B License

262-01: 100 B Licenses

Aug 15 – Sep 5 – Antlerless Mule Deer. ArchEquip, shotgun, traditional handgun, muzzleloader or crossbow only

Sep 6 – Oct 24 – Antlerless Mule Deer. Archery Only Season

Oct 25 – Nov 30 – Antlerless Mule Deer.

Dec 1 – Jan 1 -Antlerless Mule Deer. ArchEquip, shotgun, traditional handgun, muzzleloader or crossbow only

Deer B License

262-10: Over-the-counter B Licenses. ArchEquip Only. Up to three Antlerless White-tailed Deer B-Licenses per hunter.

Aug 15 – Jan 1 – Antlerless White-tailed Deer.

262-30: Over-the-counter B Licenses. ArchEquip, shotgun, traditional handgun, muzzleloader or crossbow only. NOT valid in the ArchEquip Only season. One Antlerless White-Tailed Deer B License per hunter.

Aug 15 – Sep 5 – Antlerless White-tailed Deer.

Oct 25 – Jan 1 – Antlerless White-tailed Deer.

HD 290: Add an over-the-counter B license valid for antlerless white-tailed deer, archery-only. Up to threetwo of these B licenses per hunter. These B Licenses would be valid from the beginning of the statewide Archery Only Season through Dec 15. This proposal would also change the General Deer License to: Sept 6 - Dec 15: -Either-sex White-tailed Deer and Antlered Buck Mule Deer. ArchEquip Only. This proposal would restore over the counter white-tailed deer B licenses, general season either-sex white-tailed deer harvest, and eliminate antlerless mule deer harvest in Hunting

District 290.

HD 291: Eliminate existing mule deer B licenses, reduce mule deer buck permits from 100 to ~~305~~⁰, and ~~increase~~^{reduce} youth only mule deer buck permits from 25 to ~~30~~¹⁰. Sixty total permits would be offered, equally divided between youth-only and all hunters, as per strong public comment.

HD 292: Make the existing~~Add 75 new and additional~~ white-tailed deer B licenses (quota range 25 – 200) valid only on private land in the Blackfoot watershed.

Region 3

See statewide changes listed at the beginning of the master list.

HD 309, 311, 312

All three HD's currently have separate, over-the-counter B licenses valid for antlerless white-tailed deer. The proposal is to have one B license valid in all 3 districts, with no change in season dates.

HD 388

Seasons within the weapons restriction area (WRA) began with an archery opener on August 15. The proposed change is to begin all HD388 seasons, within and outside the WRA, on the standard archery opening date (9/6 in 2014).

Region 4

See statewide changes listed at the beginning of the master list.

Region 5

See statewide changes listed at the beginning of the master list.

HD's 500, 511, 530

Remove the following deer season note:

NOTE: Those portions of HD 511 lying within Golden Valley County are closed to the taking of deer exhibiting 75 percent or more of white coloration.

This language was apparently adopted some time ago to provide protection to an albino deer observed in the area.

Regions 6 and 7

See statewide changes listed at the beginning of the master list.